

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first full paragraph of the “Summary” section, beginning at page 8, line 19, with the following replacement paragraph:

— In accordance with the present invention, a computerized file system and method are provided that are able to overcome the aforesaid and other disadvantages of the prior art. More specifically, in one embodiment of the system of the present invention, a distributed computer file system is provided for use in a client/server network. A first process (e.g., a file system management process) residing in a server computer node maintains a data file in computer-readable memory in the server computer node. A second process (e.g., a client node process) generates a first message that requests that the second process be granted by the first process a plurality of tokens required for the second process to be able to modify at least one characteristic of the data file. In response to the first message, the first process generates a second message that grants the tokens to the ~~first~~second process if the tokens are available for grant to the second process. —

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 5 of the specification with the following replacement paragraph:

— Process 260 maintains in cache memory 264 a table 259 that correlates the tokens that ~~it~~ have been granted by process 252 with the data files with which they are associated. When process 260 receives message 302, process 260 updates this table 259 to

reflect that process 260 has been granted the tokens A, B, C identified in message 302, and that tokens A, B, C are associated with file 250. Process 260 then determines whether it has yet to be granted any of the tokens (i.e., A, B, or C) that it requires to be able to carry out its desired file characteristic modification, based upon the information contained in the table 259. If after receipt by process 260 of message 302, as is the case in the present example, no additional tokens need to be granted for process 260 to be able to carry out its desired file characteristic modification, process 260 then undertakes such modification. Conversely, if any such required token has yet to be granted, process 260 waits to make such modification until it has been granted all such required tokens. —

Please replace the carry-over paragraph that begins at page 16, line 18 of the specification with the following replacement paragraph:

— Further conversely, as shown in the case 2 example in Fig. 3, if process 260 determines, prior to generating request message 300, that process 260 has already been granted one of the tokens C necessary for it to be able to undertake its desired file characteristic modification, instead of generating and transmitting token request message 300, process 260 generates and transmits to process 252 a different token request message 304. Token request message 304 is the same as request message 300, except that, the only tokens whose grant is requested by message 304 are those tokens A, B that process 260 determines are not currently granted to process 260. Just as is the case in the previous examples of cases 1 and 3, when process 252 receives message 304, process 252 ex-

amines the information in the token grant table 251 that it maintains in memory 210 of node 202 to determine which tokens whose grant is requested in message 304 are presently available for grant to process 260 (e.g., token A in the case 2 example). If process 252 determines that one or more tokens B requested in message 304 is currently unavailable for grant as a result of being currently granted to another client node process (e.g., process 280), instead of generating and transmitting revocation message 314, process 252 may generate and transmit to the other process 280 a different token revocation message 306. The information contained in message 306 is the same as that contained in message 314, except that the only tokens B ~~whose~~that grant message 306 requests be relinquished are those whose grant has been requested in message 304 but are currently granted to process 280. —